

The logo for 'MIAMIBEACH RISING ABOVE' is centered in the top banner. It features the words 'MIAMIBEACH', 'RISING', and 'ABOVE' stacked vertically in a white, sans-serif font. The background of the banner is a blue gradient with a faint image of a beach and ocean.

West Avenue Phase 2 Neighborhood Enhancements

Project Update sent: November 11, 2022

Project Overview and Benefits

The West Avenue Neighborhood Project is crucial to ensuring your neighborhood stays dry and remains a walkable, active community for years to come. West Avenue is one of the lowest lying areas in the city. Since 2017, low-lying areas along West Avenue have experienced flooding from high tides 59 times, according to NOAA's Virginia Key tidal gauges. Flooding is expected to worsen as the city is anticipated to face 14 to 30 inches of sea level rise over the next 30 years (Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, 2019).

The project's critical upgrades represent a comprehensive neighborhood improvement program, focused on resolving challenges associated with climate impacts and aging infrastructure. The proposed improvements within the West Avenue neighborhood include the replacement of the existing water distribution/transmission systems and gravity sanitary sewers; installation of a robust stormwater drainage collection and pumping system, including the raising of the paved roadway and harmonization within the adjacent private properties; installation of street lighting and pedestrian lighting; replacement of existing and installation of new signalized intersections with mast arms; installation of landscaping and irrigation; and construction of a new Baywalk segment.

What's Happening

The city administration has listened to feedback from the community, partnering agencies and Commission. Over the past several months, the Design-Build team and city staff have conducted numerous meetings to discuss the path forward for the West Avenue Neighborhood Project. The meetings resulted in several scope changes. These changes were approved at the October 26, 2022, City Commission meeting, which allows the team to resume work on the project, as follows:

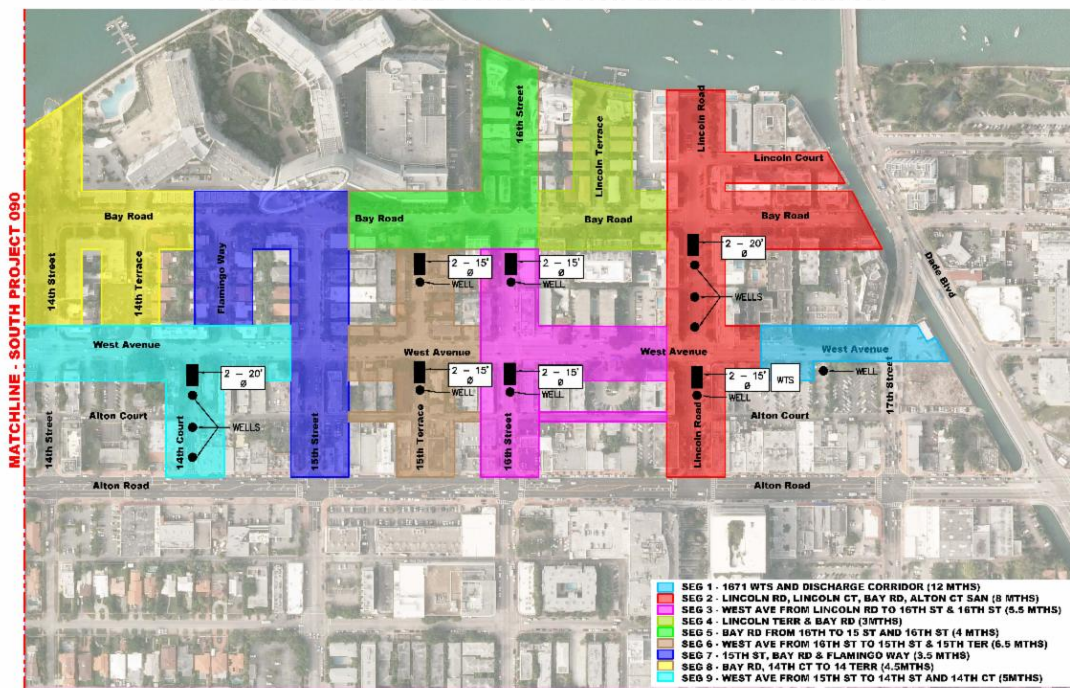
- At this time, the area north of 14 Street is approved and fully funded to resume design and begin construction, currently scheduled for April 2023. A map of this area is included in this advisory (see below). Funding was reallocated from the southern part of the project to cover the additional project costs of the north contract. The south portion of the project (between 14 and 8 streets) is paused. The city has submitted grant applications for the south part of the project and is exploring additional funding opportunities to restart work in this area as quickly as possible.
- An expanded harmonization policy will be implemented for the West Avenue project with the goal and intent of resolving what has been seen as the largest obstacle: harmonization agreements with the adjacent properties. The new policy for this project provides the opportunity to eliminate potential additional costs to residents. Property owners will no longer have to apply for Building Department permits as all private property harmonization work will be performed by the design-builder at the city's expense.
- Harmonization meetings will resume with new agreement packages. Property representatives will receive an updated package for review and execution. The team will be available to answer any questions and conduct follow-up meetings with the properties. The contractor, Ric-Man Construction of Florida (Ric-Man), will be leading the effort to conduct these meetings, with support from the team's Public Information Liaison. Meetings will be scheduled first with properties within Segments 1 and 2 as construction will begin in these areas. A process was developed to streamline discussions and outline next steps should a property decline harmonization work.
- The [West Avenue project page](#) was recently relaunched on the city's website. In addition to project information, an expanded Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section was included and will grow with the project. Please check out the page and let us know what you think about the changes. We are excited to bring additional information to the site and keep updating it as the project approaches construction.

We want to thank the West Avenue community and WAVNA leadership for their collaboration and cooperation during this time. Everyone is excited to resume work on this very important neighborhood improvements project.

Who to Contact

For more information, please contact Public Information Liaison Heather M. Leslie at heather@hmlpublicoutreach.com.

WEST AVE - PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION SEGMENTS - NORTH 091



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